

**Folder 27:**  
**Yaw,**  
**Leslie**  
**(Superintendent,**  
**Sheldon**  
**Jackson**  
**School)**  
**1941-1942**

# The First Presbyterian Church

LAKE FOREST, ILLINOIS

THE REV. W. OLIVER BRACKETT, PH. D.  
MINISTER

MRS. WARREN S. HALL  
DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

VIVIAN CAMPBELL  
SECRETARY

Lake Forest, Ill.  
September 28, 1941

The First Presbyterian Church,  
Sheldon Jackson School,  
The Presbytery of Alaska, and  
The Board of National Missions,  
Sitka, Alaska.

Gentlemen:-

We congratulate you on the replacement of the lost mission ship with the new Motorship Princeton-Hall and thank you for your kind invitation to attend its dedication. We wish that we were not thousands of miles away and could have accepted it and been there ourselves.

We all hope that the new ship will have a long and useful life, that she will be an even greater help in the promotion of your good work than her predecessor, and that she will fulfill her destiny safely and with God's guidance.

You have our every good wish.

Very sincerely yours,

The Intermediate Boys Class of  
The First Presbyterian Church of  
Lake Forest, Ill.

*James Lee*

*Sidney Smith*

*Maurice Hagen*

*Joe Falconer*

*Jack Ingram*

*Stanley Anderson*

*George Smith*  
*Jimmie Miles*

*Paul Hansen*

*Charles H. Brown, Teacher*



October 24, 1941

Intermediate Boys Class  
First Presbyterian Church  
Lake Forest, Ill.

Dear Fellows:

We were happy indeed to receive your recent letter and to know of your rejoicing with us in the building of our new ship, the Princeton-Hall. September 21, 1941, will long be remembered, especially among all of us who were privileged to be present at the impressive dedicatory service at which the principal address was made by our beloved Dr. Herbert Booth Smith. He is surely a great Christian heart and we loved every one of his wonderful messages to us. I have faith that as Dr. Smith left us he felt his sacrifice in making the strenuous trip to Alaska was worth while. We surely deeply appreciated it.

All last week it was our happy privilege to enjoy the warm fellowship brought to us by our Dr. Everett B. King. He presented Christ to us in his warm, appealing approach in a series of chapel services. We appreciated especially Dr. King's efforts and his success in bring the Moderator of our General Assembly to Alaska.

With personal regards and best wishes,

Very truly yours

Leslie Yaw  
Superintendent

LY:h

# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

Conducted by

The Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

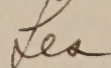
October 2, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

When Paul Prouty came back from his last trip on the SJS I suggested that he write up some of his impressions and these are now enclosed under his heading "The Moderator Moves in Alaska." I had thought that he would send this direct to you, but he tells me that since I made the request he wants me to send it in for whatever <sup>use</sup> you may find for it.

Very truly yours



Leslie Yaw

LY:h



# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

*Conducted by*

The Board of National Missions  
*of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.*

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

October 2, 1941

Dear Everett:

The John Williams totem is on the way to you. Here at S. J. S. we are hoping that it will reach you safely and that it will be a reminder of our appreciation for your efforts in bringing the Moderator to Alaska and Sheldon Jackson School. It is coming to you by Insured Parcel Post.

This is the week you should be here! The storm is on in real earnest with only short periods when the rain lets up. And how it does rain! We really were quite fortunate to have had Dr. Smith here and away before this. Willis Booth was scheduled to fly to Juneau today but the plane could not come over. I think he will make it before Sunday. We are glad that Mrs. Booth is going with him.

S. J. S. is full and fine. We all seem to be finding real joy in our work after the big events of two weeks ago. The task is easier for everyone on the Staff. Needless to say I am most grateful!

The Princeton-Hall is improving daily in appearance. The first coat of copper paint is on and that makes a wonderful difference. The portlights are in and they add to her dress. Mr. Clitheroe has the forward skylight on and that helps. The anchor windlass is still to be put down. We may have to figure out our own way to set that yet. Dick Nelson is busy getting ready to cut about five or six thousand feet of hemlock in our mill for the launching. So the work progresses a little each day. When Paul and Verne take "our ship" away there will be some lonesome hearts left behind.

Sincerely,

*Les*

# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

*Conducted by*

**The Board of National Missions**  
*of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.*

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

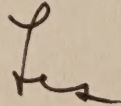
October 13, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Here is a \$15.00 gift in which you will be especially interested. We are enclosing our check No. 11012 in the amount of \$15.00, which represents the gift sent to us by Mrs. Barnes. Her letter is also enclosed.

Very sincerely



LY:h

ALASKA



# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

Conducted by

The Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

October 16, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

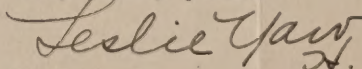
Yesterday I very reluctantly set up the launching of the Princeton-Hall an additional thirty days. For my part I have insisted now with all of the men working on the job that this is the final thirty days of grace.

I should like to report on the construction costs to date. They are as follows:

Materials	\$5422.70
Mechanical	7639.27
Labor	5498.91

This gives us a balance of \$1439.12 in the construction budget. It is now apparent that we will definitely go over the \$20,000 on construction costs. This will be at least \$1000, possibly \$1500. May we therefore request now an additional amount of \$1000 for the construction budget? We would also like to request an additional \$1000 for the equipment fund. May we have these deposits sent by the treasurer's office to our Seattle bank at an early date?

Very truly yours



Leslie Yaw  
Superintendent

LY:h

Dictated by Mr. Yaw but  
signed in his absence

# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

*Conducted by*

**The Board of National Missions**  
*of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.*

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

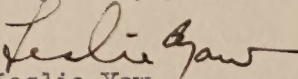
October 23, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

Enclosed are two copies of report of expenditures  
from the Princeton-Hall fund for the month of September, 1941.

Very truly yours

  
Leslie Yaw  
Superintendent



# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

*Conducted by*

The Board of National Missions  
*of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.*

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

October 24, 1941

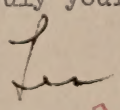
Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Willis Booth called the Session of our church together on Wednesday evening of this week to tell us that he has accepted a call to the Northern Light Church to take effect about the middle of November. As he has already wired you and has had your approval I have not felt the necessity of sending an additional wire, but we are now anxiously awaiting word from you regarding the replacement of our pastor, and I feel sure that this news may have already been mailed to us. In the exchange there must be and is the feeling that God's will is being done and that all is working together for the greatest good.

Very truly yours

LY:h

  
ALASKA

# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

*Conducted by*

**The Board of National Missions**  
*of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.*

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

October 24, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Here is a letter from Fritz Willard which has special meaning and significance. I think you will appreciate it as I have. We are also enclosing a copy of our answer to Mr. Willard.

Very truly yours



Leslie Yaw  
Superintendent

LY:h

ALASKA



# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

*Conducted by*

**The Board of National Missions**  
*of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.*

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

October 24, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Here is a check in the amount of \$10 from Miss Isabella C. Bourhill for the Princeton-Hall Equipment Fund. Miss Bourhill was a faithful member on the staff of Sheldon Jackson School for many years. She wanted her gift to buy Bibles or hymn books, but I have written her that these have all been provided and that we are using her gift for other items of equipment.

Very sincerely



LY:h

October 30, 1941

AIRMAIL

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

Today I have received a letter from Rev. Arthur M. Bily signifying that he will accept the appointment to Sitka Church. I am writing him stating that we want him to be on the field by December 1st. It would help very much if you would present Arthur Bily's name to the Session of the First Church and recommend that they unite with me in bringing him there as a pastor on the same financial basis as we had planned for this year with the Booths. In my judgment Bily is the ideal man for the Sitka Church. I had selected him previous to recommending the name of Willis Booth but due to some mix-up in the mail, as I explained to you, I did not receive his acceptance.

Mr. Bily is a young man, a graduate of McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago and has had one church in Macomb, Illinois since his graduation. His wife is a splendid character. There are no children in the family. Mr. Bily is pre-eminently a young peoples man. I feel that he will do a great piece of work both with the natives and the whites.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

ALASKA



November 3, 1941

AIRMAIL

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

I have your letter of October 16th in which you give a statement of the construction costs to date together with a request for an additional \$2,000. to be deposited in the Seattle Bank. We are sending the check for \$2,000.

I am interested in knowing just how near the boat is to completion. I wish you would take the time to send me some detailed words.

Cordially yours,

EBK:Mcb

# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

Conducted by

The Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

November 3, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Along the way I may have mentioned  
but cannot clearly recall having checked with  
you that we are paying Verne Swanson \$16.13 *per month*  
out of Princeton-Hall funds for the time that  
he spends working on the boat here. This is  
the amount which would be paid by the Hydaburg  
Church if he were on the field there.

Very truly yours

*Les*

LY:h



# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

Conducted by

The Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

November 4, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Thanks a lot for your letter of October 18th. Did you get your totem?

Yes, that article of Dr. Smith's did look good. Thank you too for sending me a copy of your report on the Alaskan trip. As you may well imagine, I particularly appreciated the accurate picture presented of our church situation here in Sitka.

The other evening all the men concerned with finishing the Princeton-Hall project were gathered in a helpful work conference, from which Paul Prouty emerged as co-ordinator. As a result a renewed interest and work activity is evidenced. The situation had progressed to a point where the man who is to have full charge of the operation of our new ship could take over a lot of the responsibility and so give additional assistance in the final construction. We have set November 21st for the launching day and so all effort is being expended toward this goal.

Lately I have had more than one bit of cranberry jam. The roast venison, roast mallard and roast Canada goose is topped off just right with that bit of cranberry. We wish you might be here to enjoy some of these Alaskan meals with us.

Sincerely

Les

LY:h  
Enc. S. S. Class letter

November 5, 1941

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

Enclosed I am sending you a copy of Mr. Paul's letter relative to the \$200. gift promised by him from the Alaska Brotherhood. We have not as yet received any part of this contribution. I think it would be well for you to check this matter and see what has become of the \$200.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE  
Enc.

ALASKA



November 10, 1941

Mr. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

Thanks for the check from Miss Bourhil to be applied on the Princeton-Hall Equipment Fund. Please let me know the particular assignment you give to her for the \$10.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

ALASKA

# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

Conducted by

The Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

November 13, 1941

## VIA AIR MAIL

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 3rd. We are glad to know that the \$2000 has been sent to the Seattle bank, half of it an addition to the construction budget, and the other \$1000 for deposit in the Princeton-Hall Equipment account. Here are the amounts spent as of November 1st:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Spent</u>
Equipment	\$2500.00	\$873.15
Mechanical	8000.00	7738.66
Labor	6000.00	6189.16
Hull	6000.00	5749.83

Yesterday we were able to put another good workman on the job down at the Howard Brothers boat shop. We are paying him \$12.00 a day, and will probably use him for the next two or three weeks. He is a man who has had considerable experience building boats around Juneau and prior to that in Seattle. We also have John D. James, one of the elders of our Church busy on the finishing work, and of course George Howard. As mentioned in another letter today Andrew Hope is away in Hydaburg and will be gone at least ten days. He is due back on the 18th in time to take charge of the final preparations for getting the ship into the water on the 21st. This is the launching day as agreed on and set here three weeks ago. As that is now only one week away I realize that there is still a considerable amount of work to do, and so when Andrew returns from Hydaburg we may find it necessary to postpone this launching day two weeks until the 5th of December. I will not know definitely on this until this time next week. Lately we have been making better progress, and I feel that the boat definitely should be ready for service by the first of the new year. Paul Prouty and Verne Swanson both feel the same way and they are the men in charge of the final engine adjustments and work involved in commissioning our ship for service. Yesterday in checking this all over with Paul Prouty he said that he would be ready to take full charge of the ship on January 1st, and so we are shaping the course.



Dr. Everett B. King - 2

As of December 31st Sheldon Jackson School will make its final report to you concerning funds allocated and expended. This final report will not be sent in until January 15th, for we will want to follow our usual practice. No doubt, as Paul Prouty has agreed with me, he is taking up directly with you the matter of the Princeton-Hall budget beginning January 1, 1942.

At this time I should like to report what has happened with Harold Lee since the time of your visit. Yesterday morning we received from him his final drawings. On October 29th I received a letter from him saying that his doctor had ordered him to take a vacation beginning November 1st, and that he was going to California on that date. We immediately wired him requesting without fail his drawing for the setting of the anchor windlass and the construction detail on the installation of the hawse pipes for the anchor chain, for which we have been waiting since last May. Also we requested one other final drawing showing the cutting of the bow stem and the construction of the forward bulwarks. These two drawings arrived yesterday morning in the nick of time. Had they not arrived we were of necessity going to take these matters into our own hands and complete the job as best we could. On our part we have released Harold Lee of further obligations on the Princeton-Hall. In the Board's final settlement with him consideration should be given to the fact of many delays in drawings being furnished us, some of them coming through after work had already been done and some drawings were never furnished, particularly a drawing for the forward staterooms, which after all, as you know, has not been necessary, and would not have been followed had Harold Lee furnished it.

At long last we have received all the materials necessary for the launching of the Princeton-Hall. The boat yesterday delivered to the Sitka dock a fine bronze skeg and a fine bronze shoe for the stem on the bow, the last materials necessary. With delays in the work of Harold Lee in furnishing drawings for the rudder, skeg and bow stem, we are most fortunate in being able to secure the necessary bronze and brass for doing a first class job. The expense is greater for these parts, but all of us here are happy to have these bronze parts instead of being driven to the necessity of using substitutes.

I realize that this report is bound to be somewhat unsatisfactory to you and to the Board. However, our position here remains unchanged - had not the unforeseen difficulties with the architect materialized, to be further complicated with the stress and strain of the National Defense program, the work here would all have been accomplished before now. Under all the circumstances which have developed I cannot help but feel that we are fortunate to be so near the completion of our work and not to be using substitute materials. Now as at the beginning, we are most grateful for the opportunities given us by the Board in the construction of the Princeton-Hall and we count it all a project for the glory of Christ and His work.

Sincerely



LY:h

# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

*Conducted by*

The Board of National Missions  
*of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.*

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

November 13, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

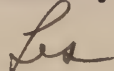
Dear Everett:

Thank you for your air mail letter of October 30.

At our Session meeting last Friday this letter was read and we had quite a little discussion regarding it, with an action resulting in the telegram which you received from the clerk, giving the Session's request for consideration of sending Harry Champlin here from Wrangell, and if this is impossible the Session would unite with you in bringing Rev. Arthur M. Bily to be our minister. Perhaps this is all determined now, yet I would like to present just my angles of the situation as I gathered the picture at the Session meeting.

It seemed to me that there was a feeling of confidence in knowing Harry Champlin and in feeling that he would come here and carry on a strong program without going through any testing and trying on the job, and perhaps there is a feeling among the men of Presbytery that Sitka is a move up after a proving time in some other field. At one time Ed Knudsen felt that way about it. However, if it has not been possible for you to consider sending Harry Champlin, then I feel sure that the Session here will work wholeheartedly with you in bringing the Rev. Arthur M. Bily to fill the place left vacant by Willis Booth's move to Juneau.

Sincerely



LY:h



November 14, 1941

AIRMAIL

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Mr. Yaw:

Dr. King is out of the office on a field trip in the Southwest and so I am writing for information regarding the VESPER CHIMES for the Princeton-Hall Boat.

Recently Dr. King wrote to the Board of Christian Education stating that the VESPER CHIMES which had been ordered in June had not been received in Sitka. A reply has come from the Board saying that the books were shipped on July 7th by mail. Before we pursue the matter any further with the Board of Christian Education, we are wondering whether by any chance these books have been received since Dr. King inquired about them.

If you will let us know by return mail whether or not 75 copies of VESPER CHIMES have been received, we shall greatly appreciate it.

Cordially yours,

UNIT OF WORK IN ALASKA

By <sup>3</sup><sub>4</sub>

McE

# Sheldon Jackson School

SICKA, ALASKA

*Conducted by*

The Board of National Missions  
*of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.*

Airmail

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

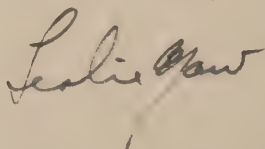
11/25/41

Mrs. H. R. McEven  
Unit of Work in Alaska  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. McEven:

Yes, we have received the 75 copies of Vesper Chimes, away back in the summer. Rev. Paul Prouty has them here in his room ready to take aboard the Princeton-Hall when he moves. I am sorry that there has been the question about them, but since there has been this question raised from somewhere I am most happy to write that the books are here. Paul Prouty is delighted with them and I can just see him leading services in the chapel of the Princeton-Hall with a copy of this hymn book in his hand.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Leslie Yaw". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature, there is a small, faint mark that looks like a checkmark or a stylized "1".



# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

*Conducted by*

The Board of National Missions  
*of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.*

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

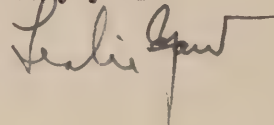
November 25, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Enclosed are two copies each of the Princeton-Hall Construction Fund and Princeton-Hall Equipment Fund reports. The report on construction funds covers the month of October, while the equipment **report** covers all expenditures up to October 31, 1941.

Very truly yours

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Leslie Yaw", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

November 25, 1941

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Friend Les:

Enclosed is a check for \$100. to cover the final payment due on the piano that is in the manse. Willis wrote to me that Mrs. Booth had presented the session with \$75. as the first payment on the piano. I am glad to be able to keep this piano in the manse.

Enclosed also is a bill from the PhotoShop Studio for \$5.00. I think it would be just as well for you to pay this bill out of the Princeton-Hall Fund. So you will please do that and keep a record of it.

Thanks also for your good articles helping me to better formulate "The Spirit of the Princeton-Hall". I quite agree with you that it would not be altogether right to print the fact that Andrew was formerly a drunkard. I shall guard that carefully and will try to keep from embarrassing him.

I am anxious to know whether or not the old boat was launched on the 21st of this month or whether it will be December 4th. Let me know.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE  
Enc. 2

November 26, 1941

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

You spoke to me in Sitka about paying Verne Swenson \$16.13 per month out of the Princeton-Hall Funds for the time that he is spending working on the boat. We assumed that this would be counted as a part of the labor in the construction of the boat which is perfectly all right.

I sent you a wire today asking for a definite date for the launching of the Princeton-Hall. I hope I receive the information before this coming Sunday.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE



November 27, 1941

AIRMAIL

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Leslie:

I had a talk today with John Scheide and am encouraged to believe that next summer we may be able to have a conference at Sitka for all the workers in Alaska. Will you, therefore, please send me as soon as possible the following information?

1. What would be the best time to have the two weeks conference at Sheldon Jackson School in Sitka for these workers?
2. Give me the cost per person for entertainment there in the school for the conference.
3. Give me a careful estimate of the cost of transportation for the missionaries and workers in Southeastern Alaska to and from Sitka.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

Conducted by

The Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

December 1, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

*checked*

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 5th and the copy of Louis F. Paul's letter of November 22, 1939 regarding the Brotherhood gift for the Princeton-Hall. Andrew Hope and Peter Simpson were unable to uncover anything on this at the Hydaburg convention. They both tell me that the matter is being investigated. I have received no assurances that the "sum exceeding \$200.00" is now available, but I do hope that as a result of the investigation which the Brotherhood claims is to be carried on now the money may yet be forthcoming.

Sincerely

*Les*

LY:h

*Today is a big day of preparation in getting ready for the Princeton-Hall launching. It looks like we should make it Wednesday. Wish you could be here. L*

Telegram from W. Leslie Yaw dated December 3

Dr. Everett B. King  
156 Fifth Avenue  
N.Y.C.

Successful launching, parade, christening ceremonies. Joy, rejoicing.  
Advise check insurance.

Leslie



## CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED

DOMESTIC		CABLE	
TELEGRAM		FULL RATE	
DAY LETTER		DEFERRED	
NIGHT MESSAGE		NIGHT LETTER	
NIGHT LETTER		SHIP RADIOGRAM	

Form No. 123  
(Revised 1938)

SIGNAL CORPS, UNITED STATES ARMY  
ALASKA COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

# TELEGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication

NUMBER

TIME FILED

CHECK

SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE, SUBJECT TO THE TERMS ON BACK HEREOF:

2-8126

December 3, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N. Y.

Successful launching parade christening ceremonies joy rejoicing  
advise check insurance.

Leslie

*Confirmation*

## SIGNAL CORPS, U. S. ARMY

# Conditions Under Which Messages Are Accepted

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To guard against mistakes, senders of messages should order them repeated; that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. The additional charge for such repetition will be one-half of the regular rate.

The United States does not recognize claims for damages resulting from errors, delays in transmission, or other faulty service. The tolls paid for handling of messages in which the service is faulty will be refunded.

Messages will be delivered free within the established free-delivery limits of the terminal office. For delivery at a greater distance, a special charge will be made, to cover only the cost of such delivery.

Night letters and night messages are accepted up to midnight for delivery on morning of the ensuing business day.

Night letters and night messages may, at the option of the Signal Corps, be mailed at destination to the addressees, and in such cases the Signal Corps shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation with respect to delivery.

Day letters may be forwarded as a deferred service, and the transmission and delivery of such day letters is, in all respects, subordinate to the priority of transmission and delivery of full-rate messages.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

1201

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter
NT=Overnight Telegram
LC=Deferred Cable
NLT=Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

A. N. WILLIAMS  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

EAA613 10 NL=SITKA ALASKA 3

1941 DEC 4 AM 2 40

DR EVERETT B KING=

:156 FIFTH AVE NYK=

SUCCESSFUL LAUNCHING PARADE CHRISTENING CEREMONIES JOY

REJOICING ADVISE CHECK INSURANCE=

LESLIE.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE



December 4, 1941

AIRMAIL

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

Your telegram stating that the old "Princeton-Hall" had been successfully launched under gala ceremonies was certainly a joy and gave cause for much rejoicing. Yesterday I had the privilege of leading Prayer Meeting here at "156" and I made note at that time, probably the Princeton-Hall was to be launched on that day. I am glad that I did not go wrong. Of course, you are going to see to it that I get a full story of the christening ceremonies together with a good clear picture taken of the boat after it is in the water.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

*Conducted by*

The Board of National Missions  
*of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.*

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

December 5, 1941

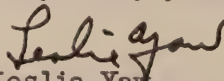
Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Could you send us \$1000 more for the construction budget for the Princeton-Hall? You know all the circumstances of the delays necessitating the extra costs, and you know that along the way we have spared no expense to put the best of materials into the construction of the Princeton-Hall. On launching day it seemed entirely advisable to Andrew Hope, Paul Prouty and myself to keep three men on the job. Pat Hussey, an excellent inside finisher, is costing us \$12 a day and we are keeping two other men, George Howard and Andrew Hope. There is still quite a little of the slow, tedious work of finishing inside as well as the mounting of the mast and boom.

It is a matter of deep regret on my part that I am asking you to send through this additional \$1000.00 on the construction budget. However, this may be regarded as our final request and we will as previously written write our last check and report on our last voucher as of December 31, 1941.

Very truly yours

  
Leslie Yaw  
Superintendent

LY:h

# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

Conducted by

The Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

December 5, 1941

VIA AIR MAIL

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

All during the happy events of Wednesday we were wishing that you and Dr. Smith could have been with us. The whole picture was exactly the opposite of that wet day of September 21st when you were here. We had an almost perfect day, a fine, spirited all-school parade a short, simple yet satisfying christening ceremony, and a perfect launching. I think you can just see the picture of our ship slipping gracefully out of her cradle into the water at the back of the boat shop. It was a thrilling, beautiful sight. I know you will be interested in the mimeographed letter enclosed, which we are using as a filler in many of the letters going out from here now.

Did you get the telegram, copy of which is enclosed? It was written here in the morning of December 3rd, and without changing was filed soon after the launching. My hat is off to Andrew Hope. I have no cause whatsoever for dissatisfaction with his workmanship. I do regret that unforeseen circumstances delayed him and so delayed and increased the cost of the whole project. However, for our part here December 3rd wiped out whatever distress we had with problems of securing plans and materials. Today I have a feeling that as Paul Prouty takes the Princeton-Hall out into service at such time as they actually complete the job of getting her in commission now, there will be a tendency for all of us to see the good and forget the problems which arose along the way in connection with her building.

Very sincerely



LY:h



December 9, 1941

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

I have received your reports covering the expenditures up to October 31, 1941. I am very anxious to receive a final and complete report, indicating that the Princeton-Hall Boat is finished.

I suppose you will have some exciting times in Sitka now. These are days when we need to hold steadfast to our Faith.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

Conducted by

The Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

December 10, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N. Y.


Dear Everett:

Here are two sets of pictures (five in each) showing the launching of the Princeton-Hall. Let me know if you want more of any particular one. In light of events since Sunday our efforts are dimmed, yet we are continuing. Just as soon as possible the men are to get the alignment made and the engine running. They are making good progress this week and are doing well. In the meantime the SJS is nearby and will take the Princeton-Hall out if anything starts to happen around here.

Very soon we probably will be losing a number of students from S. J. S. There is no commercial transportation available but small boats will be coming in. These are trying, thrilling, exciting days. Our organization is complete and keyed into the City's. Staff and student morale is splendid. This noon we had unanimous staff expression to continue school. Parents may take all of the students out but we are on record now. Naval authorities advise that there is no immediate danger to Sitka and our feeling is that the Pacific Fleet will shortly have the situation in hand with the Japanese running for cover. Some students want to go home while most want to stay. One boy had a wire which read: "Come home quick". As he read this his reaction was: "Well I won't go home". I guess he will when his folks call him but there is no way open for awhile. A girl told Miss Whitmore yesterday that she did not want to go home: "I want to stay right here and get my diploma--with a bomb on it if necessary!"

We have a Blackout every day from 5:30 P. M. to 9:00 A. M. and it is a real blackout. We are organized for any emergency, even to barrels of sand for bombs and a complete staff for our hospital which is second to the Pioneer Home hospital in Sitka's plans. Nine Senior girls who have had First Aid and Home Nursing with two older boys as orderlies one staff assistant and Miss Caswell make up the Medical Service squad.

Black days have come but our faith is in the same God who has cared for us through all the years. He is in no way at fault for the sorry old world today. It is only we ourselves. I hope to live to see the day when peace shall come again....a just firm peace controlled by the democratic peoples of the world with Christ and His great principles of life the foundation stone.

Sincerely, 

December 15, 1941

AIRMAIL

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

Enclosed you will find a check for \$1,000. as a final payment on the construction of the Princeton-Hall. However, if you find that you need a little extra money in order to make the boat complete, do not hesitate to write me.

Yes, we did receive your telegram dated December 3rd and it was a source of great rejoicing.

Thank you for the copy of the letter that you have sent me describing the launching. I do wish that I could have been there. At least I was there in spirit.

Cordially yours,

EBK:MCE  
Enc.



December 15, 1941

AIRMAIL

Mr. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

After writing you the first letter I received your second letter of December 10th with the pictures enclosed of the Princeton-Hall. Thanks a lot for sending these pictures. I hope that I can make good use of them.

I was very much interested in what you had to say about the condition in Sitka. I wish you would write me more in detail about the plans that are in operation.

You are right, we are living in uncertain days but surely He Who has caused the sun to shine will not forsake us. We need only to worry about our forsaking Him.

Cordially yours,

EBK:MCE

# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

Conducted by

The Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

December 15, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

This will acknowledge your four letters dated as follows: November 25, 26, 27, and December 4. Taking them in order - we very greatly appreciate the check in amount of \$100 on the piano that is in the manse. This has been endorsed to Frank Price, Treasurer of our church. We are taking care of the Photo Shop bill out of Princeton-Hall funds here. I am glad to know that you approve of paying Verne Swanson the \$16.13 per month. This will be ended as of January 1st. *i.e. in so far as S.J.S. is concerned.*

For the present it seems best to lay the matter of a summer conference for workers in Alaska on the table, so I am not answering fully on your letter of November 27th now. However, here are tentative and approximate reactions:

1. I would suggest as the best time to have such a conference about the last week in August and the first week in September. It is based somewhat on our experience here of last fall when we had a staff institute running over a period of four days and which we found very helpful at the outset of our present year,
2. Cost per person need not exceed 75 cents per day while here.
3. With the Princeton-Hall in service the cost for transportation of missionaries and workers in Southeastern Alaska would be the fuel bills and provisions bills for the boat. The way this appears to me approximately \$60 should cover fuel and lubricating oils, and those using the boat should pay the provisions bills.

I am glad you received our telegram stating that the 'old' Princeton-Hall had been successfully launched. Have we sent you all that you have been looking for in the way of stories of the christening? If not, let us know and we will try to send more.

Today we are entering our second week of blackout. Can you imagine Sitka from 5:30 P. M. until 9:00 A. M. without a light showing?

Sincerely

LY:h



December 11, 1941

Dear Miss Voss:

We have come through the first trying days which came so suddenly upon us with Japan's surprise declaration of war on the 7th. As we wired you on Monday, we are carrying on for the present.

During the first three days no all-staff meeting was called here. Yesterday, however, after we had some opportunity for thinking through our situation we did call an all-staff meeting. The question before us was whether we would continue our school. There was unanimous opinion that for the present we should carry on. An amendment was passed to the effect that should parents ask for their children we would not attempt to persuade them to leave their children here. A sheaf of telegrams indicates that as we expected parents in the out-lying villages are apprehensive concerning their children here. Following our staff meeting yesterday we set out ten telegrams, one to each village to our minister as follows: 'Naval authorities advise Sitka no immediate danger staff unanimously continue school splendid spirit tell parents.'

Here on the campus we have our dining room blacked out, also our chapel and many rooms, several in each building. As reported in my earlier letter this week, our organization for an emergency is practically complete. We are still carrying forward preparations for any eventuality. Yesterday we hauled sand and placed this in barrels on the porches of all our buildings for possible use against incendiary bombs. Immediately following such a raid our boys watching from the nearby woods would run out with buckets of sand and shovels to douse the bombs. Today in our carpenter shop we are making one dozen stretchers for the local medical service, so you will see how the shadow of war has come so completely over us here at Sitka.

Since the outbreak of hostilities the weatherman has been entirely in our favor. The enemy, if he has had it in his mind to find Sitka, has been thwarted through this fortunate circumstance more than through our local military defenses. However, two small scouting planes have been out daily, and numerous small patrol craft cover the area off Sitka as far as fifty miles at sea. As yet the much looked for squadrons of bombers and fighters from the States have not arrived. The situation out here is being followed very closely. We feel that for the present we are on the extreme edge of the war zone. Should the initial surprise attacks of Japan continue unexpectedly successful, a situation may develop whereby Sheldon Jackson School would close. On another outlook, the parents of our group may withdraw their children wholesale and so our school would be closed.

This is the situation at present. It is most difficult to forecast the future. However, I should like to report to headquarters that we have a wonderful spirit prevailing among our staff, and for the most part among our students. Fathers and grandfathers of our boys and girls here now may talk of sticking their feet in frozen shoes when they get up in the morning or washing in cold water, but the present generation will have stories of their own to tell concerning going to school in a blackout! We continue to feel your prayers daily, and this adds to our strength as we carry on.

Very truly yours,

Leslie Yaw  
Superintendent



# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

*Conducted by*

The Board of National Missions  
*of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.*

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

December 18, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Enclosed is another word picture of the launching of the Princeton-Hall written by Miss Herring, which I think you will appreciate.

Your letter of December 9th came yesterday. As previously written, we are planning here to send in our final report on the Princeton-Hall as of December 31st. We are just now working on the November report and it will be the middle of January before we have all the vouchers for the final report. However, I should like to warn you that boat expense is never ended! There probably always will be something needed on the Princeton-Hall. This we have found to be true on the SJS and we know it is true for many another boat. Expenses of this sort, though, are rather to be considered in terms of operation and upkeep, so we do think that our December report to be sent about the middle of January will write the final story on the construction period of the Princeton-Hall.

Very truly yours

LY:h



*Mr. Thompson  
Please return  
ans. 12/27/41*

Ketchikan, Alaska.  
December 18th.1941.

Mr. Leslie Yaw,  
Superintendent,  
Sheldon Jackson,  
Sitka, Alaska.

Dear Brother:-

Just received your letter  
describing the launching of the  
Princeton-Hall. It must have  
been a great moment for you and  
your devoted band of workers.

Many boatmen and builders who know  
what they have experienced and also  
have seen the boat under construction  
tell me it is one of the best jobs  
they have seen come off the ways.

I am also glad Verne is going to  
navigate the ship for awhile I feel  
there is none better qualified in the  
country.

This war is terrible but if it had to  
come I am glad America will have such  
a great place in it, God grant that  
we acquit ourselves as men should.  
I have no fears. Wishing you  
your staff and all Sitka friends a  
a very **Merry Christmas** I remain

Sincerely yours

*George F. Beck*

December 22, 1941

AIRMAIL

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

I received today the post cards that Mrs. Smith had mailed. I am returning to you the bill for \$18.20 and will ask you to pay it out of the Princeton-Hall Fund since all other items relative to the dedicatory services were handled in that manner.

I wish you would take the time to write me in full about the situation as it now exists in Sitka. You will, of course, be good enough to write me how Mr. and Mrs. Bily are received and what your impression is of them.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE



# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

Conducted by

The Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

December 22, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Just a line supplementing Paul Prouty's letter to you regarding personnel on "OUR SHIP". If finances allow the three man crew would probably be best. Seeing the situation as it is out here I would be satisfied with this:

After the first couple of months Verne Swanson would be getting off the Princeton-Hall. At that time our modest friend, Paul Prouty, tells me that he would be willing to accept full responsibility. This with a whole heart and with a willing spirit. Unless the three man crew is a definite possibility with plenty of cash to meet the expenses, This is what I would recommend. Give Paul a First Assistant who is an able boatman and I will not ask for the ship to be in safer hands. I will have that comfortable feeling that every situation will be ably met. As to that First Assistant (or call the other man by any other term) there is a possibility that Andrew Wanamaker would be interested and that he would accept the challenge. I can see him as Paul's right hand man and our Church salvaging him for quite a few years. In short it looks to me like the two men would make a good, strong working team, if we can get Andrew.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year all over again!

Sincerely,



# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

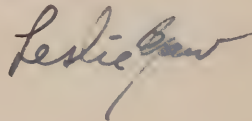
December 22, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Enclosed are two copies each of the Princeton-Hall Construction and Princeton-Hall Equipment reports, with accompanying receipts, for the month of November, 1941.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Leslie Yaw", with a stylized flourish at the end.

# Sheldon Jackson School

SITKA, ALASKA

Conducted by

The Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

12/23/41

Dear Everett:

Here are a few more  
pictures of the Princeton Hall.  
There are different angles etc.  
than I have sent. Plenty  
of Cameron were clicking  
on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>!

Here is a clipping too from  
the Juneau Empire. He sent  
a 50 word message over  
on the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Happy New Year  
L  
Y



# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

December 26, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Yesterday I received your two letters of the 15th and today the one dated Dec. 22nd arrived.

Thank you sincerely for sending the check in the amount of the full \$1000.00. You have been wonderful to stand back of us the way you have in the matter of finances. You can imagine my embarrassment over requests for the extra \$2,000.00 which we have now received. I feel sure, too, that you know the circumstances which developed to cause the over run. We will use all of this and all that has come through on equipment. Under Princeton-Hall Equipment we have had \$2,000.00 and I have been working along thinking that \$2,500.00 is the budget for Equipment. So I hope it will be possible for Paul Prouty to have the \$500.00 balance to round out the items which we have not yet been able to get aboard. We have nearly \$200.00 here for the ship and we will be sending this very soon. Last night we took up an offering for the radio telephone fund which we have undertaken to raise. This was at our Christmas night program put on by the Sunday School. The amount of the offering was \$40.00 even. More later with the remittance.

It is hard to write of conditions here in Sitka. Sometimes the last three weeks seem almost like that many years. Certainly we have been living under the threat of a raid. There have been a great many meetings and special things to take care of in the way of trying to get ready for any emergency. In the midst of it all we have come through the Christmas time with a feeling that the students and staff have felt a goodly amount of the love of Christ which we look for each year. Yet it has been different. All we do now is under the shadow of war. Yesterday afternoon I took a turn at the local Defense Headquarters, and it fell to me again early this morning. There is a grimness of war in the air. You feel it as you meet soldiers and friends. You feel it as phone calls with the base are made, as you see women and children from the base leave on crowded, dark ships, as our patrol planes keep up their flights out over the sea. This feeling seems to be everywhere. We have a strong dislike for the job ahead yet with it a determination to do it. Right now we are watching Manila reports with a sinking heart. Where is our fleet and our airforce? Did much of both get put out of action? Paul Prouty has faith that our fleet is watching its chance. I hope and pray that he is right but right now I am admiring the plucky Dutchmen and still cannot get Pearl Harbor out of my mind. At present we do not feel that there is great danger here in Southeastern Alaska. However, a continuous vigil is being maintained by the armed forces and by the civilian defense organization. Perhaps this is enough to report so that you will realize some of the uncertainty in the situation.

12/26/41

Now I do not want to appear too gloomy on a day when I lost sleep the night before so here is a perfectly good tale. Bob Ellis, one of our Alaskan civilian pilots who was first to be taken into the local force at the Airbase saw a sub on one of his flights out beyond Edgcombe one day last week. His attack with two bombs was entirely successful for both were hits. The only thing wrong with the picture which then developed was the fact that the dead sub turned out to be a dead whale! So much at least for our marksmanship around here.

The Bily's arrived on the first ship out of Seattle after the war started. They were all in favor of staying even so and had no part in the hysteria displayed by some. We liked them right away, and I feel that they will wear well. There may be a bit of slowness at the start but if this is a fault it is a good one. We have had two splendid messages on Sunday mornings and they have not been great long ones, hard to follow. Yesterday Mrs. Bily told us a Christmas story at the big S. J. S. family tree, and in the evening Mr. Bily had a part in the pageant. For the bi-racial work here I feel that they are going to get on and wear well. If the Japs don't get around here first a reception is being setup for the Bily's by the Session for New Year's Eve.

The Princeton-Hall is very near her trial run. Oddly one of our problems has developed in getting the steering wheel over from Walter. Now he promises it next week. We may have to borrow one for the first runs, which will be simply short, tests of performance. The launching was fun, the whole project has been, and now it has been the biggest joy of all to see bunks, cabinets, anchors, etc., being added until the ship is very nearly complete. That floating dormitory forward worked out well. Paul has no doubt written you of hanging bunks in the afterquarters and one in the chapel. Also of two wide, builtin bunks in the engine room. I think we have bunks for twenty-seven and Paul plans to get some airmattresses which could be used on chapel floor and dormitory floor if needed. We are waiting for your reactions to crew plans now. I am still hoping that we can get Andrew W.

We are paying Mrs. Smith the 18.20 for the pictures.

Now I will sign off hoping that you will be generous in allowing this one letter answer all three of yours!

Sincerely,

*Les*



# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

January 2, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Enclosed is a record showing contributions from the First Presbyterian Church of Sitka and Sheldon Jackson School to date as we have sent them in toward the cost of the radio telephone. Would you have this checked for us, please?

Yesterday, as we had arranged earlier, we turned over the full responsibility for the Princeton-Hall to Paul Prouty. He and Verne Swanson have the engine running now so the good ship is in commission at last. There are still quite a number of things to do to complete the electrical and mechanical installations. Verne Swanson and Paul Prouty are continuing this work and they have it well in hand.

The second paragraph of George J. Beck's letter which is enclosed is just a sample of many reactions coming in out here. We continue in gratitude for the great privilege we have had here at Sheldon Jackson School in supervising the construction of the Princeton-Hall.

Very truly yours



Leslie Yaw  
Superintendent

LX:h



Sheldon Jackson School

✓ Adder Gills 10 5 50.  
Pounds 10 15 38,  
C → ?

Autumn 1940 1 11 30 ✓  
12 70 ✓  
13 27

1940

# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

January 6, 1942

Airmail

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

My heart is heavier than lead over the blow which has fallen on us in the action of the Navy in taking the Princeton-Hall. They could have the SJS and I guess they have every right to take the Princeton-Hall and in these times of our all-out national effort we do expect to do our part only it keeps coming back to me over and over: "Do they really need her." I wonder, you see, if by chance the Naval authorities here haven't just reached out and grabbed an exceptionally fine new ship they have been watching. I doubt that there is any legal ground on which to protest. The men here have shown the law which applies to us and we have not seen any way around it. This is Section 902 of the Merchant Marine Act of 1936 as amended. If you think it worthwhile Mr. Tribus might look into this a little further.

As the Navy has taken "Our Ship" over the only consolation here now lies in the fact that she will be doing service for humanity. This is somewhat after the purposes for which we all had a part in her coming into life yet in a very different way. The Princeton-Hall is to be one of a number of small service vessels servicing outposts. Her run at the outset is Port Althorp on the North and Port Armstrong on the South. She will have a pharmacist's mate aboard and he will be messenger of mercy in reaching sick men. In addition she will carry men and supplies to these outposts. So we are somewhat happy in this, for the ship we love is not to carry guns, depth charges or the like which are directly weapons of war.

Paul Prouty and Verne Swanson are requisitioned with the ship. They are serving under Civil Service until the boat is fully ready to go out. This period of time will be for a minimum of one week and may take two weeks. No definite plan beyond that has developed here yet. However the men are thinking ahead and will have something for us in a week or so.

Commander Tate took me all over the base yesterday. Plenty of things looks good to me. So as far as we can tell things still are going to be reasonably secure around Sitka. As I came away the Princeton-Hall looked her best tied up to one of the Navy docks, and ready to do her best for her country. She is a great little ship.

Sincerely,



January 13, 1942

AIRMAIL

Mr. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

I can only imagine how heavy your heart was when you saw the definite action that the Navy took in taking over the Princeton-Hall and the SJS. It must have been almost like losing one of the members of your family. However, I am perfectly satisfied that all things work for the best. Since we are in this terrific struggle all of us will have to make sacrifices and some of ~~us~~ will have to make supreme sacrifices. It would seem to me that our sacrifice of the Princeton-Hall and the SJS would naturally fall in line as a part of the program.

You have done a splendid job in supervising the construction of the Princeton-Hall and have won for yourself the praise and approval of the Board of National Missions.

In the future, if you do not mind, I wish you would send to me directly communications that pertain strictly to the Princeton-Hall. It seems best that this information come direct to us since the Princeton-Hall is our responsibility. Of course, the Department of Ed. and Med. relays to us your messages to them but it looks like you are placing the cart before the horse. So if you can do this and send them a copy of whatever you send to us I think that will be the best way.

Give my love to your family.

Cordially yours,

LBK:McE



# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

January 17, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Enclosed is our check No. 11240 in the amount of \$712.20, which represents the balance of Princeton-Hall Equipment money in our Seattle Bank account.

Also enclosed is our remittance in the amount of \$69.37, contributions to the Princeton-Hall Equipment fund as follows:

Sitka Sunday School	\$11.70
Sheldon Jackson School (staff and student gifts)	13.27
Reimbursements for sales	45.40

We list exchange covering this remittance:

Elizabeth Mowah	788	20.00
C. W. Seymon	11385	15.00
Montgomery Ward & Co.		.25
Sheldon Jackson School	11239	34.04
Postage stamps		.08

Sincerely,

*Les*

*Wineland ok  
and add.  
Princeton Hall*

*per remittance  
for  
Princeton  
Hall*

# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

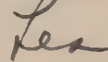
January 17, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Enclosed are two copies each of our final report on the  
Princeton-Hall Construction and Princeton-Hall Equipment funds,  
with accompanying receipts covering expenditures.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Les", is written below the word "Sincerely,".

January 28, 1942

AIRMAIL

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

The first part of the month you sent me an itemized statement of the Princeton-Hall contributions from the First Presbyterian Church of Sitka and Sheldon Jackson School. We have checked the list carefully and find that there are two additional contributions that you do not have listed; one from the Older Girls of Sheldon Jackson, March 9, 1940 totalling \$50. and the other from the proceeds of the Silver Tea, \$38. received March 15, 1940. We do not have any one to credit the proceeds of the Tea to.

I am still waiting for some direct word relative to the work of Paul Prouty and Verne Swanson. I wonder if the Government plans to keep them in service for any length of time. I shall be very glad to have the first information that you can give me.

Yesterday I was in Washington, D. C. and was instructed by the various ones that I had the privilege of contacting that there was no immediate reasons for any disturbing movements in Alaska. In other words, the school and the missionaries should go along as usual.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE



January 30, 1942

AIRMAIL

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

Your telegram received - "request separately architect's fee building insurance other you paid. Urgent."

In regard to the building insurance that item is taken care of here at headquarters. It is paid directly from the Treasurer's Office and it will not be included in the building program of the Princeton-Hall.

As to the architect's fee - I am not willing as yet to issue a final check to Mr. Lee. Since he violated the terms of his own agreement, I do not feel that we can justly be held responsible for the full amount. You, therefore, have my permission to tell Lee that he will have to make his final settlement with me.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

February 3, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

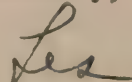
Your letter of January 28th came in with Shell Simmons this afternoon. It is appreciated a whole lot. There is plenty of bright sunshine here today but my heart isn't up to it. The Princeton-Hall was out here in the bay cutting the water grandly. She looked to be doing all that we ever expected of her but she was not running her tests for us. Still there is a bit of satisfaction in seeing her do so well. Our Church has really done something for our country in time of need. Later in the afternoon the Captain came out with Verne Swanson to get the rest of the equipment we had for the ship. He is a quiet, capable man who has had many years of experience in these waters. I feel that he is the clean sort of man who appreciates what he has under him when he walks the deck of the ship we built.

Paul Prouty missed this for he flew to Juneau with Shell. He is to check plans with Willis Booth. They may contact you for permission to charter a boat from over there and so carry on with a somewhat limited program. Or they may work it out to request that Paul make the rounds in the lay worker fields by regular transportation. His heart is here in this Alaska work and I do hope that something may work out for him to stay with us. He would be a wonderful man out over the Presbytery as you had planned. Paul has been through on the Princeton-Hall for a little over a week. Verne Swanson is still on the boat. He is expecting to get away for Hydaburg before long.

Thank you for the news from Washington. The last two weeks we have become stabilized again, and it is fine to be more settled than we were during September and the early part of January.

Those amounts sent in from our older girls would help us almost to the goal toward the cost of the phone set for the boat. If you can give us that credit we will appreciate it. We have quit trying now, and the order for the phone was canceled, but someday we may get the ship back and then we would like to feel that Sitka had provided the means of communication.

Sincerely,





February 3, 1942

Mr. Leslie Yaw  
Sitka, Alaska

My dear Mr. Yaw:

Attached is a snapshot of the motor boat "Donjac" of Juneau, which is owned by Mr. Jack B. Burford.

This boat is available for leasing for the coming twelve months, if desired. She has an over-all length of 42 feet, keel length 37 feet, beam 12 feet, and depth of 5.6. She is equipped with a 103 hp Chrysler gas engine, and will carry 13 tons net.

Mr. Burford offers the following terms. The charter fee on a twelve months basis will be \$200 per month, and we will either have to carry insurance on her for \$8000.00, or furnish a guarantee from the Board of National Missions covering this amount in the event of loss. We will have to be responsible for repairing all damages and return the boat in the same condition as when we receive her, and this carries both in respect to hull and engine. Available immediately.

Of course, we would not be responsible in the event the Navy or Coast Guard should take her while she is in our hands.

As to space on the boat. There are bunks for ten people. Six forward, two aft below deck, and two in pilot house.

The "Leota" is said to be in bad need of new twin engines. I have heard nothing more from Mr. Bixby.

No word has as yet been received from Mr. Connors as to the "Betty Ross."

Further word will be sent you as I can obtain it.

Cordially yours,

Wiley R. Booth



UNIT 10  
SITKA, ALASKA

Cross references  
WILLIAM D. BROWN  
JUNEAU

Cross ref -  
WILLIS R. BOOTH  
JUNEAU

February 4, 1942

AIRMAIL

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your check No. 11240 to the amount of \$712.20 which as you say represents the balance of the Princeton-Hall Equipment money in the Seattle Bank. I am also acknowledging receipt of your remittance to the amount of \$69.37 contribution to the Princeton-Hall Equipment Fund. Enclosed you will find the Treasurer's receipt for the same.

I have written to Paul Prouty, asking him for detailed information about the requisitioning of our good boat. I hope you two will get your heads together and send me this information right away.

Cordially yours,

EEK:McE

February 9, 1942

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Mr. Yaw:

In Dr. King's absence from the office I am enclosing this word of explanation regarding the receipts with Dr. King's letter of the 4th. You will note that Reimbursements for sales is listed as \$14.40 on the receipt. If you will refer to your letter of the 17th of January you will see that the total of the exchange enclosed was \$69.37. However the total of the designations was \$70.37. I, therefore, took the liberty of changing the item of "reimbursements for sales" to \$14.40. If this is not correct will you please indicate just where the dollar should be deducted or just where the correction is to be made.

Cordially yours,

UNIT OF WORK IN ALASKA

By:

McE



# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

February 16, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Enclosed is money order in the amount of \$42.55,  
which represents contributions to the Princeton-Hall  
Equipment fund as follows:

Presbyterian Church, Metlakatla	\$35.00
From Coin Cards (friends of Ora Kuykendall)	3.75
" " " (Sitka Presbyterian S. S.)	.30
" " " (Mr. Barrows as listed attached letter)	3.50

Sincerely

*Leslie Yaw*  
Leslie Yaw  
Superintendent

February 28, 1942

AIRMAIL

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Friend Leslie:

I wonder how things are coming along now. We have the information from you about what you are trying to do in the matter of collecting \$34,367.34 from the Government. I wish you all the luck in the world. If there is anything we can do on this end of the line, let us know.

I am sorry that I did not understand your telegram relative to the architect and insurance. I hope these matters have been cleared.

I have written to Paul Prouty asking him to return to the State of Washington and to be commissioned as a Sunday School Missionary for the duration. I find it is impossible to justify his remaining in Alaska together with the fact that we are greatly in need of men like him in the States. I am sorry to have to pull him out of Alaska but do not know of any other recourse.

Give my kindest and cordial regards to all of your family.

Cordially yours,

EDK:McE

March 3, 1942

Honorable Anthony J. Dimond  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dimond:

On the occasion of your last visit to Sitka I well remember your interest in inspecting the hull of the boat which Andrew Hope was building for us at that time. Since then we dedicated the good ship on September 21, 1941. (Please see program enclosed). This dedication was an impressive ceremony and had a great depth of meaning for our Presbyterian Church throughout all of the United States since our Moderator, Dr. Herbert Booth Smith, flew out from California to deliver the address. Subsequently the Princeton-Hall was launched on December 3, 1941. Then on January 4, just as we were ready for preliminary runs and to send the good boat out all over our Southeastern Alaska as planned, the Navy requisitioned hereand she was taken out of our hands in half an hour. After undergoing some few changes she has since been giving good service for her country in this area under the command of Captain Sievertson, formerly of Wrangell.

I am sure that you will understand our feelings through all of this. In time of national emergency we are really glad to have had something which our country could use. However, since we did dedicate our ship for religious work, we are anxious to have the Government return her to us at as early a date as this would be possible. Local naval authorities tell us that since the Government has requisitioned the vessel she has become Government property for the duration of the war and probably would not be disposed of by the Government until approximately six months after the war is over. Since this little ship was very specially constructed for church work, I am wondering if the Navy could not be influenced to make a plan for replacing the Princeton-Hall within one year. If you consider this at all a possibility, we surely will be grateful for anything you may do to help us.

I should mention further that on the same date the Navy also requisitioned our school work boat, the SJS, and so we are crippled completely for transportation.

Very truly yours

Leslie Yaw  
Superintendent

LY:h  
Enc.



# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

March 4, 1942

VIA AIR MAIL

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Today our hearts are heavy in knowing that Paul Prouty is being called out of Alaska. Now our hope and prayer is that the day will soon come when the way will be opened for his return to travel about in our Presbytery on a boat like the Princeton-Hall.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter being sent from here to Delegate Dimond. This simply raises the question of the Navy being influenced to replace the Princeton-Hall. I regard this as quite unlikely, yet have felt impelled to write the letter.

Some time ago we sent you the records as to Princeton-Hall costs which we turned over to the Navy, showing a total asking of \$34,367.34. Since the record showed the Board of National Missions as the owner no doubt the Maritime Commission may contact the New York office without pressing further with us here. At the time I signed the statement giving the figure of \$34,367.34 for the Princeton-Hall, I was assured by the local customs official, Mr. Bolshanin, that the power of attorney which he has on file for me was the authorization needed. Since he does have this power of attorney on file, and since the statement is not to be construed as a contractual sale, I trust that I have not exceeded my authority here.

200  
900  
For my part, the only item on that list of costs subject to possible reduction was that of the architect. If we actually paid only \$1600 or \$1500 then whatever the amount was should be substituted for the architect's fee. At this writing I want to raise a question with you relative to certain expense items listed which might revert to Sheldon Jackson School. These include such as the following:

Shipyard - \$945.00 as being asked from the Navy. Actually Princeton-Hall cash was used for somewhat less than one half this amount. The remainder is

DR. EVERETT B. KING - 2

involved with the use of the Sheldon Jackson School sawmill, which helped build the Howard Brothers Boat Shop. A similar item was the amount for the fuel tanks, namely \$305.00. Actually no money was used in the expense of the fuel tanks. The Sheldon Jackson School sawmill supplied lumber to Mark Riggling in this amount. Other items involved include \$2000 entered as student labor, \$300 for two life boats. To this might be added the greater part of office and overhead.

If and when the Government finally sends its check to the Board of National Missions for the Princeton-Hall, what part of these items of expense might Sheldon Jackson School have returned for possible use in bearing the expense of building another work boat? Since we are considering this question here and since the expense of building a new work boat would be much greater than the amount the Government will eventually pay the Board for the SJS, I shall be very much interested to have your reaction to this question.

Sincerely

*Leslie Yaw*

Leslie Yaw  
Superintendent

LY:h

March 12, 1942

Mr. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska.

Dear Friend Leslie:

Thank you for sending me the  
money order in the amount of \$42.55.  
We have given the credit according to  
your request.

I hope that things are moving  
along nicely with you. Give my love to  
the family.

Cordially yours,

EBK:HH



March 13, 1942

AIR MAIL

Mr. Leslie Yaw, Superintendent  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska.

Dear Les:

Enclosed I am sending you all the receipts relative to the gifts that you sent in, both from you and from Uncle Bill. You will see to it that Uncle Bill gets his receipts. I did not want to separate them for fear of not doing it properly.

In regard to the question that you raise about the final check that we receive from the Government in payment for the "Princeton-Hall," I shall be only too glad to work out an equitable amount to cover expenses, etc., that is rightfully due the Sheldon Jackson School. I think it would be rather difficult now to set any figure, due to the fact that we are not sure what the Government will pay us. I shall be more than glad, though, to go the limit and do the right thing by you.

For your information, the architect's fees have been fully paid, to the amount of \$1,900. I made this correction on your estimate, which reduces the amount \$100.

Cordially yours,

EBK:HH

# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

March 20, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Thank you for your air mail letter of March 13. We are sending the receipts along to Mr. Swogger and to Uncle Billy.

By the way, Paul Prouty on his return here from the trip he made to Juneau some few weeks ago, brought me word that Uncle Billy was interested in coming over here as our nightwatchman next September. I am wondering what your plans for him may be. Surely we do not want to interfere at all as long as you can keep him busy as a Sunday School missionary. It is true that we are going to need a night-watchman next September, and just in case it works out we could use Mr. Barrows.

Thank you a whole lot for your reaction regarding the question of a return to Sheldon Jackson School for its part in building the Princeton-Hall. I hope you will stand rather firm with the Government in the matter of the price on the Princeton-Hall. The local commission succeeded in pushing us down a little on the SJS and the Government has paid plenty for some old boats which it has taken around here. My conscience is entirely free in asking in the neighborhood of \$34,000 for the Princeton-Hall, a brand new boat giving good service and well worth that figure.

Sincerely



LY:h

March 24, 1942

AIRMAIL

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Leslie:

The World Emergency Service Commission has granted a small amount of money for summer work in Sitka with the soldier and sailor boys. If you will write to me and indicate the best way to use this money I shall appreciate it very much. I had in mind that it might be possible for some member of your faculty to spend full-time in work with the soldier boys and thus justify the Emergency Service Commission in paying for their extra time and trouble.

Until I hear from you, I shall make no further recommendations to this Commission. I have simply requested some money which has been granted. Now I await your suggestion.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE



# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

March 26, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

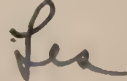
Dear Everett:

Here is a copy of Delegate Dimond's letter to me relative to the Princeton-Hall. My feeling is entirely in accord with his as stated when he mentions that we "are justified in desiring to have it returned -- at the earliest date consistent with the needs of the nation."

I am not following up here on Mr. Dimond's suggestion that we should discuss the subject with Captain F. A. Zuesler of Ketchikan, as that is a matter in which I should not become involved. However, I do feel strongly that our Church does have its needs and that we should not miss any opportunity.

I am hoping that some time soon you may have the chance to check fully with Paul Prouty regarding the requisitioning of the Princeton-Hall, and so get the complete story in conference with him.

Very truly yours,



LY:h  
Encl.

Mr. Tamm  
for CTK

C O P Y

March 13, 1942

Leslie Yaw, Esq.,  
Superintendent,  
Sheldon Jackson School,  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Mr. Yaw:

I am deeply obliged to you for your letter of March 3, describing the launching of the MS PRINCETON-HALL, the accompanying photographs, copy of the launching program and copy of the VERSTOVIAN.

While I appreciate your entire willingness in making any sacrifice that may be required for the national interest, your own need for use of the boat is such that you are justified in desiring to have it returned to you at the earliest date consistent with the needs of the nation. May I suggest that I think it would be well for you to discuss the subject with Captain F. A. Zeusler who is in command of the Navy and Coast Guard Station at Ketchikan. Perhaps you will be able to have another boat substituted for the PRINCETON-HALL.

After you have talked with Captain Zeusler, please let me know what his views are. If I should take the matter up here now with the local Navy and Coast Guard authorities, they would undoubtedly refer the matter to Captain Zeusler, and so I believe it would be better for you to talk with him in advance.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Anthony J. Dimond  
Delegate

# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

April 8, 1942

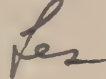
Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Your letter of March 18th has been here some days. It troubles me some. Arthur Bily is certainly a fine young man and he is doing right well as he goes about the community. He is absolutely honest and sincere. He lacks experience as a minister yet with his other qualifications he should grow into the job. I find myself wishing that he would spend a little more time in developing his services. Often we have had only a forty minute service on Sunday morning and only thirty minutes in the evening. The emphasis on spending "a few minutes with the Lord" seems a little too short. We are trying to help work this out but it is not too easy. The short sermons are fine and perhaps do more than long ones. I used to feel that Jack Webster and Willis Booth were too long. So you see we are hard to please! Mr. Bily has a fine influence with the S. J. S. students and most of the Staff. Given additional time I feel sure that he will get fully acquainted with the big job he has and that he will grow into it.

When you see Paul Prouty he can tell you more about us.

Sincerely,





# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

April 17, 1942

VIA AIR MAIL

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

When I received the attached message from Walter on Monday afternoon of this week I sent him a wire indicating that I thought his plan excellent and suggesting that he come over to spend three days with us. Walter arrived by plane on Tuesday afternoon and flew back this afternoon. While here he gave us three fine messages in the morning chapel services and developed one evening service. Between times many students came to him for individual conferences.

I feel that his time spent with us was very much worth while and that he did accomplish his purpose.

Very truly yours



LY:h

Dear Mr. Yaw: For sometime this has been on my heart. It may be worth something or could be dismissed. This coming week April 13 to April 16 do you think I could fit into your school program for intimate talks with students who would wish to do so, considering time and weather there might be two chapel talks. I would come by plane and probably request 'some responsible party to help me share expenses.'

I am surely interested in those young people and would like doubly well to drive home a few lessons with the aid of Christ's might. Should this idea not mature that will be all right and perhaps another time might be better. We appreciate your good work and splendid interest in our coming Alaska citizens. Please convey our appreciation to Miss Whitmore for her good efforts among our boys and girls.

Sincerely,

*Walter A. Soboleff*  
Walter A. Soboleff

20th Century Grocery  
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EASE. Phone 1 Ride  
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Alaska Native Brotherhood  
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Organized 1914  
Pres. Jake Cropley, Sr.  
Sec. William Jack.

D. B. Femmer  
Phone 114  
We Aim to Please.

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A. T. Nygard, Prop.  
Groceries-Meat-Fresh Milk  
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Vegetables Stationery  
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# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

April 18, 1942

VIA AIR MAIL

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

This will acknowledge your letter of March 24. I have been somewhat slow in answering, for it has taken a little time to work out something here.

I do not think we have a staff member available for the work with the soldiers, but Chaplain Culpepper is enthusiastic regarding the possibilities of having some of the men come up to use our big gym on rainy days and our campus on the bright days. He would have a man in charge to hold the men in check and to take care of equipment. I raised a question concerning the relationship between our school and the soldier boys, but he sees no difficulties there. He feels that the men can be made to understand when school is in session they are not to have the freedom of our campus, but that when the campus is vacated they may have the privilege of its use.

Chaplain Culpepper has some able assistants and I am willing to work with him in trying to develop his plan. It is likely that it will not go too smoothly, but it is also true that we should be able to help a large number of the men for each individual who may give some bit of trouble.

Since we are not able to name some staff member who would spend full time in work with soldier boys, would it be possible to secure some of the funds to help them with the purchase of equipment such as tennis nets and rackets, volley balls and other athletic equipment? In a recent fire at Fort Ray Chaplain Culpepper lost some \$250 worth of equipment of this nature, which has not yet been replaced.

I am sorry to have kept you waiting but do hope that this letter now may afford some suggestion.

Sincerely,

*Len*

LY:h

April 23, 1942

Mr. Leslie Yaw,  
Sheldon Jackson School,  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

Thanks for your letter of April 8th with the confidential statement about Arthur Bily. I believe Bily has qualities that will eventually make a real leader.

As you have stated, he is absolutely honest and sincere, but he does lack experience as a minister. Given time, he ought to give a real account of his stewardship.

I think it would be wise for you to talk with him and to give him friendly suggestions along the way, that is, if you feel close enough to him to do this. If you are not close enough, let me know and I shall be very glad to write to Bily and try to help him along through correspondence. However, that is not satisfactory as you know.

Cordially yours,

EBK-M

April 24, 1942

Mr. Leslie Yaw,  
Sheldon Jackson School,  
Sitka,  
Alaska

Dear Les:

I am interested in knowing whether or not Mr. Towne would make a suitable man to send to Craig-Klawack as Minister. I understand that Mr. Towne is retiring shortly and that he would like to remain in Alaska. Since these two fields are going to be vacant, I would be willing to try him if you can give me your approval. Let me have your confidential statement.

My judgment is that Uncle Billy would do a better job as a night watchman for you than he is now doing for us as a Sunday School missionary. So you have my consent to make arrangements with him to take over this responsibility next September. If you care to have me write Uncle Billy clearing the way for you, let me know and I shall be glad to do so.

Thanks for sending me the copy of the letter from Delegate Dimond. It appears to me that we are working against odds in trying to do anything about reclaiming the Princeton Hall.

Please give my kindest regards to the family.

Cordially yours,

EBK-M



April 27, 1942

Mr. Leslie Yaw,  
Sheldon Jackson School,  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

Thanks for the information that you passed on to me about Walter's visit to Sitka. I am sure that his contact with the students meant a great deal.

In your letter of April 15th you set forth the plan for utilizing the gym under the leadership of Chaplain Calpepper. I think the plan a good one and I shall try to secure the \$250.00 from the Emergency Service Commission with which to purchase the equipment. It will be understood, of course, that all equipment purchased will belong to the Sheldon Jackson School and will be available, for the duration, for our soldier boys.

Cordially yours,

HEK:M

April 27, 1942

Rev. Dr. William B. Pugh,  
514 Witherspoon Building,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Bill:

Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter from Mr. Leslie Yaw, superintendent of Sheldon Jackson School in Sitka, Alaska. The letter is self-explanatory.

According to the last minutes that I received of the Executive Committee of the Emergency Service Commission, \$50.00 a month was appropriated for 5 months, May 1 to October 1, to pay the expenses of a worker from the School Staff in Sitka. If it is possible to change this appropriation to \$250.00 to be used in purchasing the equipment that is mentioned in the letter of April 18th by Mr. Yaw, I feel our contribution would be well paid for.

If the Service Commission is able to make the transfer, I shall appreciate it if you will send me the check for \$250.00 and I shall immediately pass it on to Mr. Yaw with instructions. It is my understanding that all equipment purchased would eventually become the property of Sheldon Jackson School.

Cordially yours,

EBK:M

Enc.

# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

May 8, 1942

VIA AIR MAIL

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

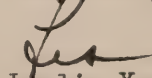
My dear Everett:

Thank you for your letter dated April 24th. I have talked to Mr. Towne without special reference to the Craig-Klawock field. Mr. Towne does not feel that he should undertake any work in the Alaska fields. He feels that while he would like to accept some one of the vacant churches, that since he is an unmarried man he would be violating a rule of Presbytery and he would not care to lay himself open to possible criticism from the people. Just a few days ago a letter from Paul Prouty told of his new work, and I have written him a question about placing Mr. Towne in some one of the small churches or possibly serving a couple of these smaller fields. I think Mr. Towne should do good work with Sunday Schools and the little churches some place back in Oregon or Washington.

Now in regard to Uncle Billy. If you are sure that you are going to terminate his work at Chapel by the Lake, then we would welcome him as our nightwatchman and would recommend your clearing the way for us. X

We are forgetting the Princeton-Hall, but it is a hard thing to do when it results in handicaps all around in our Presbytery, and particularly just now when the Young People's Summer Conference has been moved away from Sitka directly due to our lack of transportation.

Very truly yours



Leslie Yaw  
Superintendent

LY:h

X We would need him Sept. 1st.



# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

*\$ 250 grant  
Emergency Fund*

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

May 11, 1942

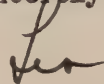
Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 23. As you suggest, I think with the passing of time our minister, Rev. Bily is going to give a real account of his stewardship. He is making progress and I feel that he is going to wear well.

If at times in your contacts with our seminaries you have a chance to influence some of the professors, I think our young ministers do need to have special training in how to conduct a church session, congregational meeting, etc. This would give the young ministers additional confidence and would be of especial help as they undertake ministry in particular fields following seminary training.

Sincerely,



LY:h

# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

May 18, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Enclosed is a copy of a recent letter received from Lawrence Freeburn. If the Board has not yet received payment for the PRINCETON-HALL it might be well to contact Mr. A. N. Young as Mr. Freeburn suggests. Here in Sitka all of us who lost boats to the Navy have been wondering when some settlement would be made, and this letter of Mr. Freeburn's is the first favorable news we have had in all these months since the boats were requisitioned. With every good wish,

Very sincerely



LY:h

C O P Y

Seattle Washington  
May 13, 1942

Mr. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:-

Your letter came today and as we are just organizing it is impossible to make any promises. However if it is a case of money I think that it can be available from the Maritime Commission within 30 days.

As you know the Board of Appraisers Tate appointed has no authority. If you will write A. N. Young, Maritime Commission, San Francisco, giving him all your bills payment can be worked out. Also give him all data on the boats.

He was here and we made altogether a different settlement on the "KUIU QUEEN" and expect payment soon.

Regarding construction of a seiner we will cooperate any way possible.

With kindest regards,

Yours very truly,

PYRAMID SALMON COMPANY

By L. Freeburn



# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

May 25, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

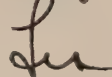
Dear Everett:

When we closed school last Friday, Ted Benson, who brought the THEO up for Metlakatla students, gave me \$5.00 for the Princeton-Hall fund. This comes from Arthur Nelson of Metlakatla. We are sending it on to you in the form of Lona E. Morlander's check dated April 29th in amount of \$5.00.

Yesterday afternoon with my boy Bob and another lad, I made a hike to Blue Lake to see a set up for driving a control tunnel. You will recall the place where we had our lunch. Yesterday this was still buried in a snowbank but I was thinking of you as we covered that trail yesterday, and I am sorry that a trip up into the Interior is not going to be possible as we had contemplated on that hike to Blue Lake.

With every good wish,

Sincerely



LY:h

*Handwritten note in red ink:*  
W. L. Benson  
\$5.00  
Princeton-Hall fund  
Lona E. Morlander's check  
dated April 29th

# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

June 5, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

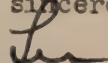
Thank you for your letter of May 27. We immediately sent a letter to Uncle Billy, definitely offering him the nightwatchman's job as of September 1. Now we are hoping that he will accept, for we have confidence that he would make us a good man.

Has the Government made an effort to reduce the figure on the Princeton-Hall? I do trust that this has not been done and that the Board will hold fast to the figure of a little over \$34,000. The good ship was worth every bit of it.

Regarding Craig and Klawock, I am troubled over the thought that it may be deemed advisable not to continue the work there. Our Church has a long history of endeavor at Klawock especially, and it is hard to think of the possibility of our vacating the fields to the Seventh Day Adventists. So for my part I do hope that someone may be found to continue the work of our Church in Craig and Klawock.

Yesterday after several attempts I finally contacted Chaplain Culpepper regarding the Emergency Service Commission's grant of \$250, and there is a question now regarding this money. Chaplain Culpepper promised over the telephone to write us a letter regarding the situation. If it gets here today we will enclose it.\* In effect he told us that the Army now has its complete equipment for the summer. He suggested that the school place an order for athletic equipment which would come through about the end of the summer and be available for the school next year. I doubt that this is the intent of the Emergency Service Commission, and so we are recommending that the grant be turned over directly to Chaplain Culpepper for expenditure. He is now making plans and placing orders for equipment needed next fall and winter. A large number of camps and outposts are being established, all of which are going to need not only athletic equipment but magazines and traveling libraries. Since the Army boys are provided for during the summer with something over \$2000 worth of athletic equipment, since it takes some six weeks or longer to secure delivery of equipment, and since there is this new emergency need, we feel that Chaplain Culpepper would make the best use of this fund in planning for our boys during the fall and winter months if he could have it granted outright. With all good wishes,

Very sincerely



\* will send later.

LY:h

# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

6/6/42

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Please tell me what you tell the ministers in Alaska Presbytery regarding dancing. Are they not missionaries under your Unit the same as the Staff of S. J. S. under the Unit of Educational and Medical Work?

This question has appeared here as a report came to me yesterday that my Ralph Weeks and <sup>your</sup> Rev. Bily were sponsoring a dance at the A. N. B. Hall tonight. I have had to register disapproval with Mr. Weeks but have said nothing to Art Bily. So far Miss Voss has told me that the Staff members of S. J. S. are not to attend public dances. I am writing her now for a new statement on this question and would like very much to have your reaction. If the front door is open I want us to walk in but if the regulation still stands we do not want to be guilty of going around to the back door.

Sincerely,





# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

6/6/42

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Chaplain Culpepper's letter promised in my letter dated June 5th came this morning and it is now enclosed. I'll attach the copy of my letter of the 5th so you will have it all together now.

Sincerely,



COPY

June 5, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Thank you for your letter of May 27. We immediately sent a letter to Uncle Willy, definitely offering him the nightcatchman's job as of September 1. Now we are hoping that he will accept, for we have confidence that he would make us a good man.

Has the Government made an effort to reduce the figure on the Princeton-Hall? I do trust that this has not been done and that the Board will hold fast to the figure of a little over \$14,000. The good ship was worth every bit of it.

Regarding Craig and Klawock, I am troubled over the thought that it may be deemed advisable not to continue the work there. Our Church has a long history of endeavor at Klawock especially, and it is hard to think of the possibility of our vacating the fields to the Seventh Day Adventists. So for my part I do hope that someone may be found to continue the work of our Church in Craig and Klawock.

Yesterday after several attempts I finally contacted Chaplain Gulpepper regarding the Emergency Service Commission's grant of \$250, and there is a question now regarding this money. Chaplain Gulpepper promised over the telephone to write me a letter regarding the situation. If it gets here today we will enclose it. In effect he told us that the Army now has its complete equipment for the summer. He suggested that the school place an order for athletic equipment which would come through about the end of the summer and be available for the school next year. I doubt that this is the intent of the Emergency Service Commission, and so we are recommending that the grant be turned over directly to Chaplain Gulpepper for expenditure. He is now making plans and placing orders for equipment needed next fall and winter. A large number of camps and outposts are being established, all of which are going to need not only athletic equipment but magazines and traveling libraries. Since the Army boys are provided for during the summer with something over \$2000 worth of athletic equipment, since it takes some six weeks or longer to secure delivery of equipment, and since there is a new emergency need, we feel that Chaplain Gulpepper would make the best use of this fund in planning for our boys during the fall and winter months if he could have it granted outright. With all good wishes,

Very sincerely

OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN  
FORT RAY, ALASKA

June 4, 1942

Mr. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Mr. Yaw:-

I greatly appreciate the splendid gesture of your Board of Missions and our mutual friend, King. You may be sure that the authorities here are always glad when people go out of their way to be helpful and kind to our men.

There are several factors that need to be taken into consideration in the matter of the offer that will possibly be lost on casual observation. May I name a few?

(1) Equipment that can be used this summer is already on order or on its way to us, if not in our present stock of supplies. Present conditions make it impossible to get material here in less than forty to sixty days.

(2) We have enough equipment to put the program in immediate use at Sheldon Jackson on hand and ordered with that in view.

(3) I would be glad to obligate the money for equipment to be used this coming fall and winter with the provision that in case hostilities ended before it was used that the equipment would be turned over to the School for its own use.

(4) The present situation may not clear up for some time. In that event we could have the equipment sent to Sheldon Jackson and in case the men could not make use of it the same equipment would come in mighty handy in the athletic program of the school. Since it will be increasingly difficult to secure athletic equipment I think that this last might be a very good suggestion and perhaps our best solution.

Always glad to be of service to you and the school. You may be sure that we appreciate the way your doors have always been open and friends nearby to give a helping hand. If Dr. King will trust us with such funds I am sure that we can make a great many hours quite pleasant and profitable for the men in the service.

Yours most sincerely,

*Charles R. Culpepper*  
CHARLES R. CULPEPPER,  
1st Lt., Chaplain,  
A & R Officer.

CRC/wgh



June 8, 1942

AIRMAIL

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

Enclosed is the Treasurer's receipt for Arthur Nelson who gave you the \$5. to be applied on the Princeton-Hall Fund. Will you mail it to him? We appreciate this gift.

All that I can say is that my pleasant memories flash through my mind when I read your note about the hike to Blue Lake. I only wish that I could have been there.

Thanks for sending me the list of the Princeton material that is stored away.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

June 16, 1942

VIA AIR MAIL

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

Enclosed is a bit of publicity on the Princeton-Hall which speaks eloquently for our little ship. I have voiced my appreciation to Lieutenant Commander Hall and I feel certain that he would appreciate a note from you should you care to write him.

Peter Simpson is building a number of small boats to be used by landing parties from the patrol vessels in this area. It was on one of the telephone conversations in connection with this project of the small boats that Lieutenant Commander Hall told me of the work of the Princeton-Hall and promised the news release which we are sending now. There is much more which could be told and no doubt as the little ship continues to serve more will be written into her record.

Sincerely



LY:h  
Enclosure

June 19, 1942

AIRMAIL

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

The Government has offered us \$29,172. as full settlement for the Princeton-Hall. Today this matter will be presented to the Board for definite action. It is my judgment that the Board will accept this money and call it a closed deal. If this is done then we will receive 15% less than you had asked for in your original listing.

This brings up another matter. In April the Board granted \$2,300. to be used in the construction of a workboat from the receipt from Princeton-Hall. Of course, this \$2,300. was worked out on the basis of the original askings. Accordingly it would seem fair to us that the \$2,300. be reduced by 15%. I am so going to suggest to the Board.

The \$250. for equipment as requested has been granted. I am still after the check and hope to be able to send it to you within the next few days. I shall be willing for you and Chaplain Culpepper to use it wisely.

Now about the dance question - so far as I know there is no ruling by the Board of National Missions relative to dancing for our missionaries. Always, of course the Board wants to cooperate with existing agencies. It would, therefore, seem to me that if the Unit of Ed and Med objects and refuses to permit their employees to engage in this type of recreation then by all means our minister should cooperate. Therefore, my ruling is that Rev. Mr. Bily must cooperate with Sheldon Jackson in that final decision.

I appreciate your reaction to the suggestion that Craig and Klawock be discontinued. That was your first thought and I am not at all surprised that you should feel as you do. However, I want you to think about it a little bit more and then send me your additional word.

Cordially yours,

EBK:MCE



June 22, 1942

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Les:

Your explanation of the grant of \$250. from the Emergency Service Commission is perfectly satisfactory. I am going to pursue this request and try to have the check in your hands within the next few weeks. Chaplain Culpepper, of course, can make a better accounting of this money than anyone else.

I appreciate what you have said about Craig and Klawock and before anything definite is done, of course, we want all angles of the problems on the desk.

Uncle Billy will make you an excellent man as night watchman and I am glad that you are able to use him.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE



# Sheldon Jackson School

Sitka, Alaska

owned and operated by  
Board of National Missions  
of the Presbyterian Church in the  
United States of America

Leslie Yaw, Superintendent

June 23, 1942

VIA AIR MAIL

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Everett:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 19. The Government paid too little for the PRINCETON-HALL, yet what is done is done and we are most happy here in knowing that the sturdy little ship which we worked so hard to build is serving gallantly.

The second paragraph of your letter relating to an amount of \$2300, a return to Sheldon Jackson School for its part in the PRINCETON-HALL construction, is confusing. A break down of the figures which we entered into our estimate follows:

Estimated figure for Mr. Stuart's time with use of his boys and equipment in S. J. S. machine shop	\$200.00
For truck and truck driver	125.00
Student labor, basis of estimate 2 helpers 10 months	2000.00 ?
Fuel tanks. No Princeton-Hall cash used for these. S. J. S. sawmill furnished lumber for this full amount	*305.00
Two life boats, materials and labor furnished entirely by S. J. S.	*300.00
1½ T. ballast iron	45.00
Office-overhead, ½ of figure given for this item in P. H. construction cost	1485.00 ?
App. ½ of the \$945 item paid for boat shop rent. This figure, \$462.50, did not entail any P. H. funds. The Howard Bros. boat shop owed S. J. S. sawmill a supply of logs for lumber furnished in construction of the boat shop. Each month we issued a receipt on our bill for logs showing that we had received \$45.00	*462.50
	\$4922.50
*Amounts not subject to 15% reduction.	
15% on \$3855.00	578.25

Total asked for as return to S.J.S. \$4344.25

From the above you will note that we have figured the 15% reduction on all except the three starred items. One other reduction might be mentioned pertaining to our figuring only one half of the office and overhead item, and so

*april 2,300 refund - out of Board -*

16,000
11,000
<hr/>
27,000

*29,172*  
*27,000*  

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*3172*

*June 18 - Board meeting*

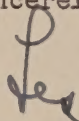
Dr. Everett B. King - 2

giving an advantage on this item. If you have some questions about this matter now would you kindly look up our letter of March 4 and your reply of March 13? The only way I can reconcile that \$2300 figure in my thinking here is that this amount was given to Miss Voss in connection with estimates for the cost of building a new work boat.

It surely will be fine to receive that \$250 check for Chaplain Culpepper to use for the army boys stationed in this area. We very greatly appreciate the paragraph on the dance question. As yet I have not received a reply from Miss Voss, but I do hope to receive this soon.

For the present I have no further reaction on the question regarding Craig and Klawock. I am going to do just as you suggest and think a bit more about that.

Sincerely



LY:h

cc to Miss Voss



June 29, 1942

AIRMAIL

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw  
Sheldon Jackson School  
Sitka, Alaska

Dear Mr. Yaw:

Your letter of June 23rd has been received during Dr. King's absence on vacation. However, I shall see that this is brought to his attention immediately upon his return about the tenth of August.

Cordially yours,

Secretary to Dr. King

McE